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HEADLINE Missile plan causes "uncertainty" in Russia, says Moscow

SUMMARY Russia's deputy foreign minister and a leading US State Department official have a private meeting in Moscow. The minister, Sergei Kislyak, Thursday, 18 October 2007, 13:44

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TAGS PREL, PARM, MARR, MNUC, KACT, KNNP, IR, RS

SUBJECT: ACTING U/S ROOD'S MEETING WITH DFM KISLYAK:

GLOBAL INITIATIVE, GNEP/ANGARSK FUEL CENTER, INDIA 123, POST-START

Classified By: Ambassador William J. Burns. Reasons 1.4(b) and (d).

11. (C) Summary. In a meeting October 11 on the margins of the missile defense and 2 2 discussions in Moscow, Acting Undersecretary for Arms Control and Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism

12. (C) Rood told Kislyak that Spain had offered to host the next meeting of the Global Initiative. Kislyak responded favorably, noting that Spain was interested in hosting the meeting. Rood said that the U.S. and Russia should focus on the 62 countries that have joined the Global Initiative. Kislyak said while numbers were important, the U.S. and Russia should focus on the 123 countries that have joined the Global Initiative.

13. (C) Rood stressed the need to deepen the substantive work of the group. He suggested that the U.S. and Russia urge key countries to sponsor the India and 123 Agreement.

14. (C) Kislyak and Rood discussed the likelihood of the Indian Parliament approving the 123 Agreement. Rood expressed concern at India's delay in ratifying the agreement.

15. (C) Kislyak and Rood discussed the likelihood of the Indian Parliament approving the 123 Agreement. Rood expressed concern at India's delay in ratifying the agreement.

16. (C) Rood said the U.S. and Russia had a long-term task to determine how to solve our differences over a post-START Treaty arrangement, and

MOSCOW 00005060 002 OF 003

Russia did not have many substantive differences on transparency and confidence-building measures (CBMs), he urged that the U.S. and Russia focus on these issues.

17. (C) Kislyak said Russia had a much more substantial problem with the U.S. proposal than Rood's characterization indicated. The main problem is that the U.S. proposal does not address the issue of transparency and confidence-building measures.

18. (C) Noting that some in offices on both sides of the Atlantic had not grown out of a Cold War mentality, Kislyak said the U.S. was sending mixed messages.

19. (C) In response to Rood's question, Kislyak acknowledged that Russia wanted a post-START arrangement to apply to conventional forces. Rood agreed.

20. (C) Kislyak said that Russia was seeking to get China, France and the UK to join Russia in reducing the number of strategic nuclear weapons.

Nuclear Energy and Non-Proliferation Initiative

21. (C) Rood said the U.S. was very committed to the Nuclear Energy and Non-Proliferation Initiative, and had received only positive feedback.

22. (C) Kislyak responded that the GOR does not have problems with the concept of the initiative, but was in the middle of reorganizing its nuclear industry, and so would not be able to move forward.

23. (C) Kislyak said Kazakhstan was very involved in the effort. The Kazakh President's announcement at the UN General Assembly about revising the GNEP/Angarsk Fuel Center

24. (C) Kislyak reported that Russia had approved the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership's (GNEP) Statement of Principles. He said Russia had issued a statement of principles.

25. (C) Kislyak added that China and France were considering cooperating together on reprocessing of uranium and were lukewarm on joining the Georgian HEU/ISTP

26. (C) Rood said the U.S. had the political approvals to provide Russia with the sample of Georgian Highly Enriched Uranium it had requested.

27. (C) Both sides agreed that, since the core mission of the ISTC to give job opportunities to former nuclear weapons scientists had been advanced.

28. (U) Acting U/S Rood has cleared this cable. Burns